KAHCF

KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Supporting Kentucky's long-term care providers since 1954

2015
ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman's Message

A lot can happen in just two years

Two years ago when I was sworn in as the Association's board chair, it seemed the end of my term was a long way off.

This month, the two-year term ends. We have faced many challenges, from the continued assault by predatory trial attorneys and negative stories in the media to staffing worries all while continuing to provide quality care to our residents.

Yet we have taken steps to promote what we do every day. Focusing on the American Health Care Association's Quality Initiatives that embrace quality of care and life for our residents is just one way we will be able to portray the high standard of care we provide.

The Association itself has provided numerous education sessions on reducing rehospitalizations and the use of antipsychotics, better care for residents with dementia and other issues and trends impacting long-term care. A revamped Quality Awards Program puts the focus on nominees and award winners providing quality care.

We have done much work over two years. We have much work to do. It is important that we stand united against the many challenges we will see come our way.

With the continued leadership of our new executive committee and board, along with the dedicated and professional Association staff, I know we will provide the needed voice to support our residents and members and continue the Quest for Quality that will never end.

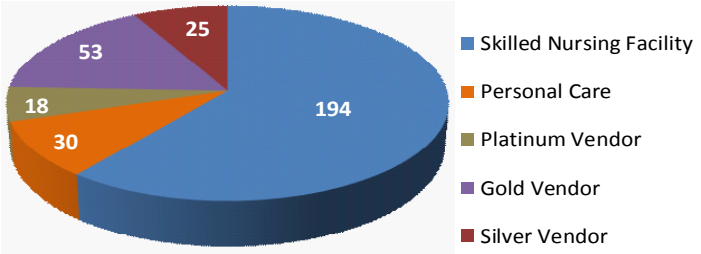
Thank you for your membership and support and I look forward to what the future holds for long-term care.

Sincerely,

Ken Urlage, Administrator
River Valley Nursing Home

Association Membership

By the numbers



Several KAHCF members, like Superior Care in Paducah, have been renovating and building new facilities to better care for residents. Many are adding more space for rehabilitation areas to help residents return home or enjoy a better quality of life.

Quality Recognition

KAHCF encourages its members to participate in the AHCA Quality Award Recognition program, which gives out Bronze, Silver and Gold awards to facilities meeting high standards in establishing quality programs and care. Members also receive Tier Awards from AHCA for meeting its Quality Initiative benchmarks.

In 2014 -15:

- **6 received 2015 Bronze Awards (Silver and Gold not announced as of June 3, 2015)**
- **1 received 2014 Silver Award**
- **2 received 2014 Bronze Award**
- **15 received 2014 Tier III Status**
- **4 received 2014 Tier IV Status**

Staff focused on visiting Association members this year. As of June 30, 2015, 70 facilities visited by Association staff to thank them for their support and listen to their concerns and issues. Staff will be continuing these efforts.

Public Policy and Advocacy

KAHCF makes it a priority to advocate on behalf our members interests and needs with government officials and public policy makers. We utilize our government affairs expertise to interact with legislators and government officials in Frankfort and beyond. KAHCF also maximizes upon its membership to develop essential relationships with government officials through grassroots advocacy efforts.

Grassroots Advocacy

Comprehensive Online Advocacy Tools and Resources:

- Identify and Contact Legislators;
- Legislative Tracking Reports;
- Issue Briefs; and
- Election & Political Resources

Consistently maintaining one of the most active grassroots initiatives in Frankfort:

- KAHCF members flooded the 2015 Senate Health & Welfare Committee meeting on Medical Review Panels
- All 138 of Kentucky's legislators contacted by KAHCF members
- Over 50 facility visits with legislators in 2014
- Dozens of member visits with legislators in Frankfort during the 2015 legislative session.

Caregivers spent time in Frankfort discussing long-term care issues.

Lobbying Initiatives

Monitored 50 different bills and initiated 17 resolutions recognizing award-winning facilities and caregivers during the 2015 Session. Legislative highlights include:

- Leading the campaign supporting Medical Review Panel legislation
- Discussing legislation mandating participation in the National Fingerprint Background Check Program
- Opposing arbitrary mandatory staffing standards legislation
- Focusing on Key Legislators:
- House & Senate Leadership Officers
- Health & Welfare Committee Members
- Appropriations & Revenue Committee Members

Reimbursement

• Kentucky nursing facilities received a .1% Medicaid inflationary adjustment for capital and non-capital components effective July 1, 2014. As of this writing, the Association is actively working with the Department for Medicaid Services to determine the inflationary adjustment for 2015.

• Regarding Medicare, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) indicated it would increase rates by a net market basket rate of 1.4% effective October 2015. In addition, with the passage of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act in April 2015, the therapy caps exceptions process for therapies was extended through calendar year 2017.

• Because of balances owed Personal Care Homes, the Association met with Department of Aging & Independent Living regarding guardianship accounts that resulted in substantial collection of old balances.

• Association met with the Department for Community Based Services regarding local DCBS office issues. A statewide "Medicaid pending" survey was conducted and the survey results were shared with DCBS in Frankfort. In addition, the Association will involve the Billing Work Group in testing a new eligibility system to be implemented January 1, 2016 and resulting management tools DCBS can use to monitor "Medicaid pending" cases.

• As a result of ICD-10 implementation, Association met with HP's Account Manager to discuss advance testing needed to ensure ICD-10 compliance prior to implementation.

Regulatory

KAHCF recognizes the challenging survey and regulatory environment our members operate. To assist members with this challenge, KAHCF staff and member representatives meet with the Office of Inspector General's Deputy Inspector General and Assistant Directors regularly to discuss survey and regulatory changes and issues, including:

• Frequent Life Safety Code topics, such as clarification on achieving compliance on the use of power strips in nursing facilities, particularly in resident rooms, and the use of oxygen in facility beauty salons.

• The CMS new health focused surveys on Minimum Data Set/ Review of Staffing and Dementia Care.

• Kentucky Administrative Regulation discussions, including the establishment of the Caregiver Misconduct Registry, revised Tuberculosis Testing for Healthcare Workers and Residents and the National and State Background Check Program.

• Establishing task forces of members and staff proved to be an effective way to address concerns with these administrative regulations.

Quality Awards Program

The Public Affairs team and Public Relations Committee overhauled the KAHCF Quality Awards Program last year by streamlining the categories and process. The presentation of winners in November was also revamped with a more energetic program and counting down the Top 10 in Nursing Care, Direct Care and Supportive Care.

No. of entries: 179

No. of Awards presented: 52

The Grandview Nursing & Rehabilitation Facility 2015 Facility of the Year

Professional Development

- **74** Educational Sessions Provided
- **6,112** Overall Attendees
- **355** accredited hours provided
- **990** Registered for 2014 Annual Meeting

Points of interest

Offered two District Trainings throughout the state in Louisville, Lexington, and Bowling Green, on:

- Reducing Rehospitalizations and Taking INTERACT to the Next Level - 175 attended
- ICD-10 Training -129 attended

Public Relations

The Association uses mainstream and social media to promote facilities, staff and residents throughout the year. Newspapers and TV stations ran stories on almost all of the KAHCF Quality Award Winners and other recognitions facilities receive throughout the year. This year, Kentucky had the AHCA National Young Adult Volunteer of the Year, which received coverage on Lexington/ Eastern Kentucky news stations and in papers.

Number of stories featuring LTC and KAHCF members: approximately 60 newspaper articles and five radio spots airing on nearly 100 radio stations
Facebook Likes: Over 1,000
Facebook Posts: Over 400 posts
Twitter: Over 650 Tweets
Heroes of Long Term Care issues: 3 – National Nursing Home Week 2014, Quality Award winners 2014, Love Through the Ages
CareLink: 60th Anniversary and Infection Control

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Event Sponsors

Thanks to these vendor members for sponsoring events during fiscal year 2015

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